

Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 CIAE-00 INR-05

INRE-00 SSO-00 SAJ-01 PM-03 PRS-01 SP-02 ACDA-10

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FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4407

SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE

INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS 5587

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USMISSION BERLIN

USDEL MBFR VIENNA

USNMR SHAPE

USLOSACLANT

USCINCEUR

USDOCOSOUTH

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LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR, NATO

SUBJ: PERMREPS LUNCH, NOVEMBER 4, 1975

BEGIN SUMMARY. AT THEIR REGULAR WEEKLY LUNCHEON MEETING ON NOVEMBER 4, NATO PERMREPS DISCUSSED THE FOLLOWING:

1. DATES FOR SPRING 1977 NAC MINISTERIAL MEETINGS.
 2. ARRANGEMENTS FOR DECEMBER MINISTERIAL MEETINGS.
 3. MBFR: EC-NINE CONSULTATIONS.
 4. CSCE: EC-NINE CONSULTATIONS
 5. PORTUGUESE ACCESS TO NATO CLASSIFIED INFORMATION.
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6. THE SITUATION IN PORTUGAL.

7. PLANNED FRG TV PROGRAM ON NATO.

8. SACEUR'S COMBAT EFFECTIVENESS BRIEFING TO THE DPC.

9. APPOINTMENT OF AMBASSADOR RUMSFELD AS SECRETARY OF DEFENSE.

END SUMMARY.

1. DATES FOR SPRING 1977 NAC MINISTERIAL MEETINGS.

KILLICK (UK) SAID THAT UK WOULD SHORTLY PROPOSE IN NAC THAT SPRING 1977 NAC MINISTERIAL MEETING BE HELD IN LONDON ON MAY 10-11. SINCE UK IS ATTEMPTING TO MESH THIS EVENT WITH OTHERS SURROUNDING QUEEN'S JUBILEE, IT WILL APPRECIATE EARLY ALLIED AGREEMENT TO THESE DATES.

2. ARRANGEMENTS FOR DECEMBER MINISTERIAL MEETINGS.

A. RESTRICTED SESSIONS.

MENZIES (CANADA) STATED THAT HIS AUTHORITIES HOPED THAT ALLIES WOULD SEEK TO DEFINE IN ADVANCE THE SUBJECT OR SUBJECTS TO BE ADDRESSED IN THE RESTRICTED SESSIONS OF THE DPC AND NAC MINISTERIAL MEETINGS IN DECEMBER. CANADIANS BELIEVE THAT ONLY ONE OR TWO SUBJECTS SHOULD BE ADDRESSED IN RESTRICTED SESSION AND THAT THE MEETING THEREAFTER SHOULD BE OPEN TO BROADER PARTICIPATION. IN RESPONSE TO QUESTION FROM KRAPF (FRG), MENZIES SAID THAT HE HAD NO SPECIFIC SUBJECTS TO SUGGEST FOR DISCUSSION AT RESTRICTED SESSION. US CHARGE INDICATED THAT, BASED ON RECENT EXPERIENCE, HE BELIEVED HIS AUTHORITIES FAVORED EMPHASIS ON RESTRICTED SESSION, FOR IT PROMOTED USEFUL, FRANK REVIEW OF SENSITIVE ISSUES. NONE DISAGREED WITH CHARGE'S STATEMENT THAT ATTENDANCE BY MINISTER AND PERMREP PLUS FOUR, AS IN PAST, SEEMED TO PROVIDE ADEQUATE REPRESENTATION FOR ALL DELEGATIONS. KRAPF SUPPORTED US CHARGE, INDICATING THAT IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT TO LIMIT IN ADVANCE THE TOPICS TO BE ADDRESSED BY MINISTERS IN RESTRICTED SESSION. (COMMENT: MENZIES APPEARED TO BE ISOLATED IN PREFERRING TO LIMIT RESTRICTED SESSION, BUT WE EXPECT HIM TO PURSUE THIS POINT IN NAC DISCUSSION ON MINISTERIAL MEETING ARRANGEMENTS, WHERE IT WOULD BE HELPFUL TO HAVE GUIDANCE. IN VIEW OF APPARENT GENERAL SATISFACTION OF OTHERS WITH RECENT
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PROCEDURES, WE RECOMMEND HOLDING TO US PREFERENCE EXPRESSED IN PARA 1, B, OF STATE 95082 DTG 242254Z APR 75.) END COMMENT.

B. QUADRIPARTITE TEXT FOR NAC MINISTERIAL COMMUNIQUE.

MENZIES, RECALLING THE CONCERNS OF THE 11 NON-MEMBERS OF THE QUADRIPARTITE GROUP, ASKED IF IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE FOR THE FRG OR ONE OF THE THREE POWERS TO PROVIDE TO THE 11 DETAILS ON THE COMMUNIQUE LANGUAGE ON BERLIN AND GERMANY AS A WHOLE IN ADVANCE OF THE MINISTERIAL MEETING. HE BELIEVED THAT EARLY CONSULTATIONS ON THE CONTENT OF THE QUADRIPARTITE TEXT WOULD STRENGTHEN THE INTEREST OF THE OTHER MINISTERS WHO ARE ASKED TO ENDORSE THE QUADRIPARTITE LANGUAGE.

SUCH AN APPROACH, HE SAID, WOULD HELP TO KEEP QUADRI-
PARTITE ISSUES ALIVE AT A TIME WHEN BERLIN
MATTERS APPEAR TO BE RECEDING INTO THE BACKGROUND.
CATALANO (ITALY) SUPPORTED MENZIES, STATING THAT
SOME FEEL THAT THE PRACTICE OF HOLDING QUADRIPARTITE
DINNERS ON THE EVE OF MINISTERIAL MEETINGS WAS
OBSOLETE AND MIGHT BE ABANDONED. KRAPF
PROMISED TO LOOK INTO WAYS TO MEET THE CONCERNS EXPRESSED BY
MENZIES.

3. MBFR: EC-NINE CONSULTATIONS. MENZIES STATED THAT
HE HAD LEARNED INDIRECTLY ABOUT RECENT EC-NINE CON-
SULTATIONS ON MBFR AND THAT CANADA, AS WELL PROBABLY
AS THE US AND OTHER NON-NINE ALLIES, BELIEVED THERE
IS A LEGITIMATE EC-NINE INTEREST IN ASSURING THAT
NOTHING HAPPENS IN MBFR THAT INHIBITS THE EVOLU-
TION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY IN ITS POLITICAL OR
EVEN MILITARY SCOPE. INDEED, HE POINTED OUT, MANY
NON-NINE PUBLIC FIGURES HAVE SUPPORTED THE VIEW THAT
MBFR SHOULD NOT CUT ACROSS WESTERN EUROPE'S EVOLUTION.
WHILE PROGRESS TOWARD INTEGRATION MAY CREATE SOME
FRUSTRATIONS, CANADA BELIEVED THAT A STRONGER EUROPE
WILL CONTRIBUTE TO A STRONGER ALLIANCE. MENZIES
BELIEVED THAT THE GOOD-WILL THAT SHOULD EXIST AMONG
ALLIES WAS BEING TESTED SOMEWHAT, HOWEVER, BY THE ATTITUDE
OF THE NINE TOWARD REPORTING TO THE FIFTEEN ON THE NINE'S
MBFR DISCUSSIONS, PARTICULARLY SINCE MBFR ISSUES ARE
BEING DISCUSSED AT FIFTEEN IN NATO, AFFORDING A FULL
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OPPORTUNITY TO THE FRENCH TO FOLLOW CLOSELY ALLIED
DELIBERATIONS ON MBFR. AS MUTUAL MEMBERS OF THE
ALLIANCE, THE NINE SHOULD NOT KEEP THEIR CONCERNS
HIDDEN, MENZIES SAID; NOR SHOULD THE NINE INSIST THAT
THE OTHER SEVEN BE PRIVY TO THEIR CONCERNS ONLY AT AN
ADVANCED STAGE OF EC-NINE DELIBERATIONS.

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FM USMISSION NATO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4408
SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE
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AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
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MENZIES ACKNOWLEDGED THAT ALL ALLIES WHO WERE INTERESTED WERE INFORMED ON A BILATERAL BASIS OF EC-NINE DISCUSSIONS IN MBFR, AND CROSS-CHECKING REVEALED THAT NONE OF THE NINE WAS DISSEMBLING IN REPORTS OF THE DISCUS-

SIONS. HOWEVER, IN THE SPIRIT OF OPENNESS, HE URGED THAT THE NAC ALSO BE BRIEFED FORMALLY. CATALANO SAID THAT ONLY ONE OF TWO NINE CONSULTATIONS HAVE BEEN HELD ON MBFR, AND ONLY ONE SESSION DEALT WITH SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES. THE NINE ARE TRYING BY EVERY MEANS, HE SAID, TO ACHIEVE POLITICAL UNION AND DISCUSSIONS ON MBFR SHOULD BE SEEN IN THAT LIGHT. THE OTHER ALLIES CAN BE SURE, HE SAID, THAT THE NINE WILL NOT REACH
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CONCLUSIONS WITHOUT DISCUSSION AT FIFTEEN. AS IN THE CASE OF CSCE, THE NINE WERE NOT OPPOSED TO SHRINKING THEIR VIEWS WITH THE OTHER ALLIES.

SYG LUNS EXPRESSED HIS SYMPATHY FOR EC-NINE DISCUSSION OF POLITICAL SUBJECTS; HOWEVER, IN THIS INSTANCE, THE NINE SHOULD RECALL THAT MBFR IS A NATO MATTER AND EC-NINE DISCUSSIONS SHOULD NOT LEAD TO FOREGONE CONCLUSIONS. MOREOVER, HE SAW LITTLE POINT IN INVOLVING IRELAND IN DISCUSSIONS OF MBFR, AND IN ANY EVENT IN THE ABSENCE OF WESTERN EUROPEAN MILITARY INTEGRATION HE SAY NO NEED FOR SEPARATE NINE CONSULTATIONS ON MBFR.

KRAPF EXPRESSED THE VIEW THAT THE NINE CONSULTATIONS ON MBFR SHOULD NOT DETRACT FROM THOSE OF THE FIFTEEN. THE NINE SEEK, HE SAID, TO DEFINE A FEW LIMITED ISSUES HAVING A DIRECT BEARING ON EUROPEAN UNIFICATION AND ITS DEFENSE STRUCTURE, INCLUDING MATTERS RELATED TO "THE SPECIAL STATUS OF SPECIAL

REGIONS." IF THESE NARROW CONCERNS WERE DEFINED CORRECTLY, AS HE HAD TOLD VAN WELL, THE NINE WOULD FIND FEW POINTS ON WHICH THEY WOULD WANT TO CONSULT.

THEODOROPOULOS (GREECE), WHILE RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF THE EMERGING EC-NINE, URGED THAT THE NINE INFORM THE OTHER ALLIES OF THEIR MBFR CONCERNS.

DE LA FERRIERE (FRANCE) SAW NO NEED FOR PRO-CEDURAL FORMALITY, AND QUESTIONED PARTICULARLY THE NEED FOR PROGRESS REPORTS BY THE NINE. IN RESPONSE, MENZIES STATED HE BELIEVED THE NINE HAVE SOME RESPONSIBILITY TO COMMUNICATE TO OTHERS IN THE NAC THEIR VIEWS ON MBFR, ON WHICH THE FIFTEEN HAVE MAINTAINED TO DATE A REMARKABLE DEGREE OF UNITY. HE SOUGHT TO AVOID SUSPICION OR MIS-UNDERSTANDING. WHILE EC CONCERNS ON MBFR WERE LEGITIMATE, IT WOULD BE APPROPRIATE, IN HIS VIEW, FOR THE

NINE CHAIRMAN TO BRIEF THE NAC, IF ONLY AS A GESTURE OF SOLIDARITY.

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KILLICK INDICATED HIS GRATITUDE TO MENZIES FOR RAISING THE SUBJECT, EXPRESSED HIS APPRECIATION FOR THEODOROPOULOS VIEW, AND ENDORSED THE STATEMENTS BY THE FRENCH, FRG AND ITALIAN REPRESENTATIVES. THE FACT THAT THE NINE ADDRESS CERTAIN MATTERS DOES NOT MEAN THAT THE RESULTS OF THE DISCUSSIONS ARE CONCLUSIVE; INEVITABLY, HE SAID, THEIR CONCLUSIONS WILL COME TO THE COUNCIL.

US CHARGE EXPRESSED APPRECIATION TO MENZIES FOR RAISING THE MATTER, AND, PURSUANT TO STATE 234883, INDICATED THAT A WAY SHOULD BE FOUND TO KEEP NATO FULLY INFORMED ON EC DISCUSSIONS. HE SUGGESTED THAT THE PATTERN ESTABLISHED IN CONNECTION WITH CSCE PROVIDED A GOOD MODEL. INDEED, THE PRESENT DISCUSSION AMONG PERMREPS UNDERLINED THE DEGREE OF INTEREST IN THIS MATTER AND HENCE THE UTILITY OF THE NINE BRIEFING THE COUNCIL ON THEIR MBFR DISCUSSIONS.

DE STAERCKE (BELGIUM) HEATEDLY STATED THAT MENZIES AND US CHARGE HAD RAISED A FALSE PROBLEM. IN THEIR CONSULTATIONS, THE NINE WERE ADDRESSING ISSUES OF CONCERN TO EUROPE, PART OF A PROCESS TO ESTABLISH A EUROPEAN IDENTITY. IT WOULD DO NO GOOD TO FIGHT ABOUT THE MATTER, FOR THE NINE WOULD PERSIST IN THEIR EFFORT TO SEEK AN IDENTITY. EC-NINE CONSULTATIONS HAVE YIELDED NOTHING AS YET ON MBFR OF GENERAL INTEREST TO THE FIFTEEN, AS THE SEVEN MUST

BE FULLY AWARE. THERE WAS NO NEED TO DISSEMBLE IGNORANCE ON THE PART OF THE SEVEN, HE SAID, WITH REGARD TO PROGRESS IN EC-NINE MBFR DISCUSSIONS. MENZIES REJOINED THAT THERE MIGHT BE A STRONG DIFFERENCE OF VIEW BETWEEN THE NINE AND THE OTHERS OF THE FIFTEEN ON THIS ISSUE. IN ANY CASE, HE SAID, A FORMAL REPORT TO THE NAC BY THE NINE WOULD BE USEFUL. PERHAPS, HE SAID, A PROCEDURAL CONVENTION NEEDED TO BE ESTABLISHED ON THIS AS IN THE CASE OF CSCE. DE LA FERRIERE QUESTIONED THE NEED FOR A FORMAL PROCEDURE, POINTING OUT THAT, IF IN THE VIEW OF THE NINE MBFR NEGOTIATIONS WERE GOING BADLY, THE NINE WOULD MAKE THEIR VIEWS KNOWN TO THE FIFTEEN.

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GAARDER (NORWAY) AND TOMASSON (ICELAND) SUPPORTED MENZIES' REQUEST FOR A FORMAL PROCEDURE. DE STAERCCKE UNDERLINED THAT HE SAW NO NEED FOR A REPORT TO NAC UNTIL THE NINE REACHED SOME CONCLUSIONS UNLESS, HE SAID, THE OTHER SEVEN SIMPLY WANTED TO BE FORMALLY PRIVY TO THE DISARRAY AMONG THE NINE ON THIS ISSUE, OF WHICH THE SEVEN WERE PROBABLY FULLY AWARE.

US CHARGE RESPONDED THAT HE AND OTHERS WERE SIMPLY EXPRESSING THE CONCERN THEIR GOVERNMENTS SHARED ABOUT BEING INFORMED OF THE NINE DISCUSSIONS ON MBFR. IT WOULD BE UNFORTUNATE IF PROCEDURAL ASPECTS BECAME A MATTER OF TALMUDIC DEBATE; RATHER, FORMAL OR INFORMAL EXCHANGES LIKE THAT AT LUNCH, OR IN ANY OTHER ALLIED FORUM, LIKELY WOULD DO MUCH TO ALLAY CONCERNS.

ALP (TURKEY), RECALLING HIS PARTICIPATION IN CSCE TALKS AT GENEVA, POINTED OUT THE IMPORTANCE TO THE SEVEN AND THE NINE OF AVOIDING STRAINS THAT HURT THE ALLIANCE.

(COMMENT:

THE POINT WHICH DE STAERCCKE AND OTHER EC-NINE PERMS MAY HAVE LOST SIGHT OF IS THAT THE SEVEN REPS, INCLUDING US CHARGE, WERE NOT ARGUING FOR IMPROVED CONSULTATIONS BETWEEN THEIR INDIVIDUAL GOVERNMENTS AND THE NINE, BUT, RATHER, IMPROVED CONSULTATIONS IN THE COUNCIL AMONG THE EIGHT NATO ALLIES OF THE EC-NINE AND THEIR OTHER SEVEN NATO ALLIES

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DURING THE DEBATE SURROUNDING THE "YEAR OF EUROPE" ENDEAVOR, THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE NINE, ON ONE HAND, AND THE OTHERS OF NATO, ON THE OTHER HAND, WAS NOT ADDRESSED, IN TERMS OF CONSULTATIVE RELATIONSHIPS, AND TO SOME EXTENT THE GYMnich FORMULA GOVERNING US-EC-NINE RELATIONS HAS ATTENUATED US CONCERNS ABOUT REMAINING ABREAST OF EC-NINE DELIBERATIONS. HOWEVER, AS THE INTERVENTIONS OF THE CANADIAN, ICELANDIC AND NORWEGIAN REPS MADE CLEAR, THERE IS NOW CONSIDERABLE AND GROWING CONCERN ABOUT THE NON-NINE COLLECTIVELY BEING EXCLUDED FROM ACCESS TO INFORMATION ON EC-NINE CONSULTATIONS.

AT THE SAME TIME, DE STAERCKE'S EMOTIONAL DEFENSE OF THE NINE'S PREROGATIVE TO CONSULT WITHOUT REPORTING TO THE CONCIL UNTIL THE NINE HAVE REACHED AGREED SECRET

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POSITIONS SUGGESTS THAT THIS IS A SENSITIVE ISSUE, AND WE WOULD GUESS THAT TO A CERTAIN EXTENT DE STRERCKE IS REFLECTING DOCTRINAL VIEWS SHARED BY THE FRENCH AND OTHER OF THE NINE. BECAUSE OF NINE SENSITIVITY ON THIS ISSUE, WE WOULD NOT RECOMMEND EARLY PURSUIT OF THIS POINT, ESPECIALLY SINCE THE REACTIONS OF THE SEVEN DOUBTLESS WILL BE A TOPIC FOR DISCUSSION AMONG THE NINE AT THEIR NEXT POLITICAL CONSULTATIVE GATHERING. NONETHELESS, WE SEE MERIT IN STICKING WITH THE OTHER SIX OF THE SEVEN AS A GROUP IN INSIST-

ING IN LOW KEY THAT THE NINE SHOULD PROVIDE TIMELY ACCOUNTS OF EC POLICIES AND PROPOSALS ON MATTERS AFFECTING THE VITAL INTERESTS OF ALL OF THE FIFTEEN. END COMMENT.

4. CSCE: EC-NINE CONSULTATIONS. CATALANO REPORTED THAT THE RECENT NINE MEETING IN ROME HAD YIELDED CONSENSUS ON A REPORT ON CSCE IMPLEMENTATION THAT THE NINE WILL SHORTLY DISTRIBUTE TO THE ALLIES.

5. PORTUGUESE ACCESS TO NATO CLASSIFIED INFORMATION. LUNS INDICATED THAT IN THE ABSENCE OF ANY OBJECTIONS, HE HAD INSTRUCTED THE NATO PRESS SPOKESMAN TO DEAL WITH PRESS QUESTIONS ON PORTUGUESE ACCESS TO NATO CLASSIFIED INFORMATION ALONG LINES OF THE STATEMENT HE HAD EARLIER CIRCULATED (USNATO 5778).

DE FREITAS CRUZ (PORTUGAL) NOTED THAT THE SITUATION IN VIENNA WAS SATISFACTORY FROM THE STANDPOINT OF AMBASSADOR CONDE. MOREOVER, HE EXPRESSED HIS GRATIFICATION FOR THE EXCELLENT MANNER IN WHICH A/SYG TUCKER HAD DEALT WITH THE ISSUE OF PORTUGUESE PARTICIPATION IN CNAD DISCUSSION OF SENSITIVE MATTERS. THE PORTUGUESE GENERAL WHO HAD ATTENDED THE MEETING AND WHO WAS DESCRIBED BY DE FREITAS CRUZ AS VERY "RIGHT-WING," WHILE AWARE OF THE ARRANGEMENTS, HAD BEEN EXTREMELY SATISFIED WITH TUCKER'S TACT.

6. THE SITUATION IN PORTUGAL. DE FREITAS CRUZ REPORTED ON "ECOURAGIN SIGNS" IN PORTUGAL'S DOMESTIC SITUATION, WHERE SOME COMMUNISTS HAVE BEEN PUSHED OUT OF SENSITIVE POSTS AND THE SECOND DIVISION WAS
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BEING REBUILT. HE HOPED TO HAVE A FAVORABLE REPORT IN SEVERAL MONTHS ON PROGRESS TOWARD ASSURING THE SECURITY OF NATO CLASSIFIED INFORMATION.

7. PLANNED FRG TV PROGRAM ON NATO. LUNS DESCRIBED DIFFICULTIES HE HAD RECENTLY ENCOUNTERED IN CONNECTION WITH THE PRODUCTION BY A GERMAN OF A TV FILM ON NATO. ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE FILMING HAD BEEN MADE THROUGH MILITARY CHANNELS, AND UNTIL FILMING HAD BEGUN THE NATO PRESS SERVICE HAD NOT SEEN THE SCRIPT, WHICH UPON REVIEW WAS FOUND UNACCEPTABLE IN ITS ORIGINAL FORM. SACEUR AND THE CHAIRMAN OF THE MILITARY COMMITTEE WERE AWARE ONLY IN THE VAGUEST WAY OF THE PROPOSED FILM. THE SCRIPT CAUSED PARTICULAR CONCERN TO LUNS BECAUSE HE SAID, IT WAS BASED IN PART UPON A SCENARIO FOR THE LAST HILEX EXERCISE, A COPY OF WHICH HAD BEEN FURNISHED TO THE TV PRODUCER. LUNS CALLED THIS A BREACH OF SECURITY WITH SERIOUS IMPLICATIONS. A SECOND VERSION OF THE SCRIPT PREPARED BY THE PRODUCER WAS STILL UNACCEPTABLE FROM A NUMBER OF

POINTS OF VIEW. LUNS HAD MET WITH THE PRODUCER IN AN EFFORT TO PERSUADE HIM TO FURTHER ALTER THE SCRIPT, BUT LUNS WAS NOT SANGUINE HIS VIEWS WOULD BE HEEDDED. IN ANY CASE, LUNS WILL ASSURE THAT THE PRODUCER DOES NOT STATE THAT THE FILM WAS PREPARED "IN COOPERATION WITH NATO," AND WILL SUITABLY DISASSOCIATE NATO PUBLICLY FROM THE UNDERTAKING IF NECESSARY. KRAPF HOPED SHORTLY TO HAVE A REPORT ON THE COMPROMISE OF THE HILEX SCENARIO.

8. SACEUR'S COMBAT EFFECTIVENESS BRIEFING TO THE DPC. MENZIES CALLED SACEUR'S PRESENTATION NOVEMBER 4 TO THE DPC OF HIS EFFECTIVENESS REPORT AN "EXEMPLARY DISPLAY." STATING THAT SACEUR PROJECTS HIMSELF EXTREMELY WELL, DRAWING FULLY ON HIS EXCELLENT STAFF SUPPORT, MENZIES SAID THAT GENERAL HAIG COMES ACROSS AS A MAN WITH NEW IDEAS. SACEUR'S STATURE COULD TEND TO OVERSHADOW NATO'S NON-MILITARY ACTIVITIES, MENZIES SAID. HE THEREFORE FELT THAT PUBLIC AFFAIRS EFFORTS SHOULD BE MADE TO KEEP THE ROLES OF SACEUR AND THE COUNCIL IN PERSPECTIVE. IF SACEUR WERE INVITED TO MEET MORE FREQUENTLY WITH THE DPC, MENZIES BELIEVED IT IMPORTANT THAT OTHER MAJOR NATO COMMANDERS ALSO
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BE GIVEN OPPORTUNITIES TO MEET WITH THE PERMREPS. LUNS EMPHASIZED THE IMPORTANT CONTRIBUTION THAT THE CHAIRMAN OF THE MILITARY COMMITTEE, ADMIRAL SIR PETER HILL-NORTON HAD MADE TO THE ALLIANCE.

9. APPOINTMENT OF AMBASSADOR RUMSFELD AS SECRETARY OF DEFENSE. A NUMBER OF PERMREPS COMMENTED FAVORABLY ON THE PRESIDENT'S INTENTION TO NAME AMBASSADOR RUMSFELD TO THE POST OF SECRETARY OF DEFENSE. DE STAERCKE CITED THE PASSAGE IN THE PRESIDENT'S PRESS CONFERENCE STATEMENT NOVEMBER 3 THAT EMPHASIZED US INTENT TO STAND FIRM IN THE FACE OF ANY THREAT, AS EVIDENCE OF CONTINUITY IN US POLICY. SEVERAL WONDERED WHETHER RUMSFELD WOULD REPRESENT THE US AT THE FORTHCOMING NPG AND DPC MINISTERIAL MEETINGS. STREATOR

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Message Attributes

Automatic DecapTIONing: Z
Capture Date: 18 AUG 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 04 NOV 1975
DecapTION Date: 28 MAY 2004
DecapTION Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: greeneet
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975NATO05988
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: 11652 XGDS-1
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: NATO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19751189/abbrzmyq.tel
Line Count: 476
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: n/a
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 9
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: greeneet
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <02 APR 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <17 SEP 2003 by greeneet>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PERMREPS LUNCH, NOVEMBER 4, 1975
TAGS: PFOR, NATO
To: STATE
SECDEF INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS
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Type: TE

Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006